

In re Appln. of Peter Bongartz et al.
Serial No. 10/680,923
Reply To Final Office Action Of May 26, 2005

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-11 (CANCELED)

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A constant velocity joint comprising:

a trunnion defining a retaining groove;

a retaining ring secured within said retaining groove, said retaining ring including a fracture area for permitting said retaining ring to be altered from an unbroken ring prior to insertion into said retaining groove to an open ring after said retaining ring is secured within said retaining groove, and said fracture area being that is fractured as said retaining ring is secured in said retaining groove.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The constant velocity joint of claim 12 wherein said retaining ring further includes:

a first leg having an inner surface;

a second leg having an outer surface; and

a first notch defined by one of said first and second legs wherein said fracture area extends from said first notch towards one of said outer surface and said inner surface.

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14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~A The constant velocity joint comprising: of claim~~

13

a trunnion defining a retaining groove;

a retaining ring secured within said retaining groove, said retaining ring having a first leg having an inner surface, a second leg having an outer surface, and a first notch defined by said first leg and a second notch defined by said second leg and wherein said retaining ring includes a fracture area wherein said first notch is defined by said first leg and wherein said second leg defines a second notch, said fracture area extending between said first notch and said second notch that is fractured as said retaining ring is secured in said retaining groove.

15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A constant velocity joint comprising:

a trunnion defining a retaining groove;

a retaining ring secured within said retaining groove, said retaining ring including a first leg having an inner surface and a first notch, a second leg having an outer surface and a second notch, and a fracture area extending between said first notch and said second notch, and wherein said first leg extends outwardly from said inner surface and said second leg extends outwardly from said first leg, said second leg being angled relative to said first leg, said second leg defining said outer surface, and wherein said fracture area is fractured as said retaining ring is secured in said retaining groove.

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16. (ORIGINAL) The constant velocity joint of claim 15 wherein said first notch is defined by said first leg and said second leg defines said second notch extending inwardly from said outer surface toward said first notch.